

News from Congressman

Tom Lantos

12th Congressional District of California San Mateo/San Francisco

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Don't Irrationally Curtail Stem Cell Research, Lantos Says

Washington, **DC** – Congressman Tom Lantos (D-San Francisco, San Mateo) today voiced strong support for both of the measures promoting expansion of stem cell research that the House is expected to consider today. Lantos issued the following statement before the votes:

"Never has the pathway to the future been so clearly illuminated. These two bills invest in America's innovative potential to help millions who suffer from debilitating and deadly disease; there is absolutely no rational reason to prevent either one from being passed and signed into law.

"For all Americans who face incurable illness, from children afflicted with juvenile diabetes to the elderly struggling with Alzheimer's, our country must commit and dedicate itself to the kind of research and development that will provide breakthroughs, Nobel Prize-winning solutions and cures."

Last year Lantos supported Proposition 71, the California ballot initiative establishing a stem cell research center regulated and funded by the state, creating a constitutional right to conduct stem cell research and prohibiting the center from conducting human reproductive cloning research. Earlier this month, San Francisco was selected to be the new research center"s headquarters, enlarging the possibilities for biomedical science advances at a number of institutions, including UC San Francisco in Lantos' district.